

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL LAYTON CITY
COUNCIL MEETING**

OCTOBER 22, 2015; 6:00 P.M.

**MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS
PRESENT:**

**MAYOR PRO TEM JOYCE BROWN, TOM DAY,
SCOTT FREITAG AND JOY PETRO**

ABSENT:

MAYOR BOB STEVENSON AND JORY FRANCIS

STAFF PRESENT:

**ALEX JENSEN, GARY CRANE, SCOTT CARTER,
DAVID PRICE AND THIEDA WELLMAN**

The meeting was held in the Council Chambers of the Layton City Center.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. She excused Mayor Stevenson and Councilmember Francis.

PRESENTATIONS:

RECREATION, ARTS, MUSEUM AND PARKS (RAMP) TAX DISCUSSION

Scott Carter, Special Projects Manager, said this public meeting was a requirement of State law allowing citizens to consider the proposed RAMP tax. He said there would be an opinion question on the November ballot, allowing citizens to vote on the imposition of a RAMP tax of 1/10 of 1%. Scott said State law required the taxing entity to conduct a public hearing not more than 14 days before the election nor less than 4 days before the election, and allow equal time for arguments in favor or against the proposition. The public hearing could be held no earlier than 6 p.m.; the meeting had to be digitally recorded; and the meeting recording had to be made available to the public if requested.

Scott Matthews, North Salt Lake, said he would like to discuss something other than the RAMP tax.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown said the Council was not taking public comments this evening other than those addressing the RAMP tax. She suggested that Mr. Matthews could talk with the Councilmembers after the meeting.

Rick Smith, 615 South 1375 West, said he was in favor of the RAMP tax. He said he had questions about how the tax would be managed and how it would be controlled. Mr. Smith said there would be special interest groups that would want all of the money to go to arts or museums or parks, depending on their interests. Mr. Smith asked what kind of money was projected to be received.

Scott Carter said the RAMP tax was anticipated to go toward recreation, arts, museum and parks; they were still formulating bylaws to govern how that would exactly operate. Generally speaking, there would be a citizens committee that would take applications for improvements in those 4 areas and make recommendations to the Council as to which ones should be funded. Scott said the Council would be making the final decision because it was a budget decision.

Mr. Smith said the City could also request some of those monies.

Scott said yes; and private nonprofit organizations could apply for funding.

Mr. Smith asked how much money was anticipated.

Scott said there were a lot of variables, but a report from an economist suggested that the RAMP tax would generate approximately \$739,000 per year.

Mr. Smith asked if there would be a restriction on the number of requests.

Scott explained that they were looking to divide the applications into small grants and large grants. Grants could be financed over a period of time and it could go toward bonding if the Council chose to do that. He said this would allow leveraging the money to get more up front.

Mr. Smith asked if the money could be used for new parks versus adding amenities to existing parks.

Scott said yes.

Councilmember Brown said there was a draft of the ordinance that would govern the RAMP tax, but it couldn't be put into place until the tax passed.

Councilmember Petro mentioned that trails would be a part of the parks section.

Amber Mortensen, 1414 West Silver Creek Drive, asked if the money that came in would roll over to the next year if it wasn't used, or would it be used for something else at the end of the year.

Scott said the money was dedicated to those four areas; it couldn't be used for anything else. If the money wasn't used it would carry over to the next year. He said the City wouldn't start collecting money until April of 2016.

Ms. Mortensen asked if the Boy Scouts would be a qualifying entity.

Councilmember Brown said she didn't think they would qualify; she didn't know what they would use the money for relative to recreation, arts, museum or parks. The money couldn't be used to go to a camp.

Ms. Mortensen asked if an Eagle Scout that wanted to upgrade a playground would qualify for funding.

Gary Crane, City Attorney, said volunteers working through a 501(c)3 organization could receive funding for that type of a project, but the money would have to go to the organization. He said the money couldn't go to an individual.

Ms. Mortensen asked what the monetary difference was between small grants and large grants.

Scott said that hadn't been finalized.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown asked for any other comments.

None were given.

The meeting adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

Thieda Wellman, City Recorder